[Translated from Russian]

Lavrov spoke at a meeting of the UN Security Council on Ukraine

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Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov spoke at a meeting of the UN Security Council on the situation in Ukraine

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Lavrov also mentioned that Ukraine is using in the Donbass the "Lepestok" anti-personnel mines, which are prohibited by international conventions. According to Lavrov, the West today is building its policy towards Volodymyr Zelensky according to the principle "he may be a son of a bitch, but he's our son of a bitch", covering up the crimes of Kyiv.

In addition, the minister criticized the activities of the International Criminal Court, which is trying to accuse the Russian military of committing crimes. He noted that at the same time, neither the coup d'état in Ukraine, nor the events in Odessa on May 2, 2014, nor the shelling of peaceful cities of Donbass and many other events "did not produce any adequate reaction from the ICC." That's why there is no more trust in this court, Lavrov stressed.

Besides that, he mentioned the provocation in Bucha. The head of the Russian Foreign Ministry noted that Western countries do not want to put pressure on the Ukrainian authorities to publish the names of the people whose bodies were depicted in the photographs. He called on UN Secretary-General António Guterres to help resolve this issue.

Regarding the participation of foreign mercenaries in the conflict on the side of Ukraine, the Russian Foreign Minister noted that all those responsible for the shelling of civilians would be held accountable, regardless of their citizenship.

Lavrov also stressed that the holding of referendums in the Donbass, as well as in the Zaporozhye and Kherson regions, was a response to Volodymyr Zelensky's call for Russians to leave the country.

"The apotheosis of that was an interview with Mr. Zelensky on August 5 last year, who advised everyone who considers himself/herself to be Russian to get out to Russia for the sake of their children, their grandchildren. <...> It seems to me that the decisions that have now been made by the residents of a number of regions in Ukraine on holding referendums is a response to his advice," the minister said.

Lavrov also reported on a great number of facts proving that Kyiv was preparing to play the role of "anti-Russia". He said that Moscow would not allow the West to use Ukraine as a springboard for threats to Russia's security.

The General Assembly is being held from September 20 to 26 at the UN Headquarters in New York against the backdrop of the most powerful geopolitical divisions since the Cold War. The Russian delegation, which had problems obtaining US visas, is expected to work in the hostile environment created by Western countries that have unleashed a sanction war against Moscow, as well as a proxy war to fight "to the last Ukrainian."

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